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<b>biological oxygen demand (BOD)</b>	The measurement of oxygen required by aerobic biological processes to break down organic matter in water. (Conventional wastewater treatment aims to reduce BOD to prevent a significant reduction in the oxygen content of the receiving water body.)
<b>biota</b>	The animals, plants, and microbes that live in a particular location or region.
<b>brackish</b>	Having a salt content in the range between fresh and salt water.
<b>buffer strips</b>	A management practice that reduces runoff and nonpoint source pollution loading by maintaining a protective border around critical habitats or water bodies.
<b>bycatch</b>	Due to the use of certain gear or fishing practices, fish harvested in addition to the species targeted for harvest.
<b>catch per unit effort</b>	The amount of fish caught with a given amount of effort (e.g., number of boats/people, amount of gear/time fished).
<b>chronic toxicity</b>	Any harmful effects to organisms in controlled toxicity tests with long-term exposure during a sensitive period of the life cycle to specific substances or mixtures. Early life stages or reproductive toxicity tests may be used to determine chronic impacts.
<b>chlorophyll <u>a</u></b>	A green pigment, found in all plants that undergo photosynthesis, that is used as an indicator of algal growth in a water body.
<b>community</b>	See natural community.